

REMARKS

A Request for Continued Examination is being filed concurrently herewith.

An excess claim fee payment letter is submitted herewith for one (1) excess independent claim.

Claims 1-19 are all the claims presently pending in the application.

New claim 19 is added to define the combination of features recited in claims 4+6+7. The combination of claims 4, 6, and 7 has not been previously considered by the Examiner, and thus, raises a new issue to avoid a "first-action" final Office Action after the filing of the RCE. No new matter is added.

Applicants note that none of the Office Actions to date have identified any teaching in Takeishi or Onishi in which "*a second buffer is located for burying a second space between said piezo-electric resonator and said sealing member*", as recited by new claim 19 (emphasis added).

In the Advisory Action dated march 3, 2006, the Examiner alleged that the rejections as stated in the Office Action mailed December 2, 2005, are still seen as proper.

However, with respect to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 17 and 18 are clear and definite, for the reasons set forth in the Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 filed on February 13, 2006. Should the Examiner continue to maintain this rejection, the Examiner should answer the substance of Applicants' traversal positions.

With respect to the rejection of claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeishi in view of Onishi, Applicants reiterate that none of the Office Actions to date have addressed the specific features recited by claims 2, 3, 14, and 16. Similarly, Applicant reiterates that none of the Office Actions to date have addressed the

specific features recited by claims 4-8, 15, 17, and 18. Thus, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not yet been established with respect to independent claim 4 and dependent claims 5-8, 15, 17, and 18.

Should the Examiner maintain these rejections, Applicants request that the Examiner properly establish the motivation for combining Takeishi and Onishi to arrive at the claimed combination, as recited by independent claim 4 and dependent claims 5-8, 15, 17, and 18, that a reasonable expectation of success would have been expected, and that the alleged combination teaches or suggests each and every limitation of independent claim 4 and dependent claims 5-8, 15, 17, and 18.

Claim 18 is amended merely to rewrite this claim in independent form. The Examiner is requested to properly establish the obviousness of all of the features of independent claim 18.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 1-19, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

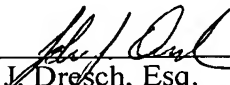
Serial No.: 10/806,469
Attorney Docket No. P06276-US
(CLO.012)

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: MARCH 31, 2006



John J. Dresch, Esq.
Registration No. 46,672

Sean M. McGinn, Esq.
Registration No. 34,386

**MCGINN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
LAW GROUP, PLLC**
8321 Old Courthouse Road, Suite 200
Vienna, Virginia 22182-3817
(703) 761-4100
Customer No. 21254